

VII.C.3.N.b. Dry slopes

VII.C.3.N.b.200. CERCOCARPUS MONTANUS SPARSELY VEGETATED ALLIANCE Mountain-mahogany Sparsely Vegetated Alliance

CERCOCARPUS MONTANUS ROCK PAVEMENT SPARSE VEGETATION

Mountain-mahogany Rock Pavement Sparse Vegetation

ELEMENT CONCEPT

GLOBAL SUMMARY: This association has only been described from Zion NP. Until further inventory is completed there is no global information.

ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION

USFWS Wetland System: Not Applicable

Zion National Park Environment: This association occurs on gentle to steep mesa rims and mountain ridges where most of the exposed ground is rock pavement or high cover of small and large rock fragments. Soils are sandy or silty. Elevation ranges 6700 to 8200 feet.

Global Environment: This association has only been described from Zion NP. Until further inventory is completed there is no global information.

VEGETATION DESCRIPTION

Zion National Park Vegetation: Total shrub cover in this association is between 5 and 20%. *Cercocarpus montanus* usually dominates or codominates the shrub component with various combinations of *Amelanchier utahensis*, *Arctostaphylos patula*, and/or *Quercus gambelii*. *Cercocarpus montanus* was not present in one stand; however, the rest of the species composition was consistent. Single standing *Juniperus osteosperma* and *Pinus edulis* may be found in the stand. Little bare ground is exposed and is usually entirely covered with small to large rock fragments forming a rock pavement. Few herbaceous species are present and they are extremely sparse in cover.

Global Vegetation: This association has only been described from Zion NP. Until further inventory is completed there is no global information.

Global Dynamics: Information not available.

MOST ABUNDANT SPECIES

Zion National Park

Stratum

SHRUB

Species

Amelanchier utahensis, *Arctostaphylos patula*, *Cercocarpus montanus*, *Quercus gambelii*

Global

Stratum

Information not available.

Species

CHARACTERISTIC SPECIES

Zion National Park

Stratum

SHRUB

Species

Amelanchier utahensis, *Arctostaphylos patula*, *Cercocarpus montanus*

Global

Stratum

Information not available.

Species

GLOBAL SIMILAR ASSOCIATIONS:

Information not available.

GLOBAL STATUS AND CLASSIFICATION COMMENTS

Global Conservation Status Rank: G?.

Global Comments: Information not available.

ELEMENT DISTRIBUTION

Zion National Park Range: This association occurs on mesa rims and mountain ridges in the northern regions of the park. Goose Creek knoll and the western rim of Horse Ranch Mountain are representative sites.

Global Range: This association has currently only been described from Zion NP in southwestern Utah.

Nations: US

States/Provinces: UT

ELEMENT SOURCES

Zion National Park Inventory Notes: Plots: 102, 115, 213, 309

Classification Confidence: 3 **Identifier:** CEGL002978

REFERENCES: None available.

Note:

This association is found in two different map classes:

- 1) [Cercocarpus montanus Rock Pavement Sparse Vegetation](#)
- 2) [Mixed Mountain Shrubland Complex](#)